

AMENDMENTS FO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to FIG. 5 in which the reference number 59, first occurrence, is changed to --58--.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Change

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Oath/Declaration

The oath or declaration was deemed defective on the grounds that it did not identify the mailing address of each inventor. A copy of an Application Data Sheet submitted on filing the application is attached hereto. The Application Data Sheet identifies the mailing address of each inventor and complies with 37 CFR 1.163(c) and 37 CFR 1.76.

Drawings

FIG. 5 of the drawings was objected to because it did not include the reference number "58". FIG. 5 is amended to correct the reference number "59", first occurrence, to read --58--, and the objection is traversed.

The drawings were objected to for failure to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they included reference characters not mentioned in the description. Paragraph [0045] is amended to include reference number 29 shown in FIG. 3; paragraph [0046] is amended to include reference number 40 shown in FIG. 4; paragraph [0055] is amended to include reference number 114 shown in FIG. 8. No new matter has been added and the objections are traversed.

The drawings were further objected to because reference characters 163 and 164 were both used to designate the step of reporting the results of verification and management procedures. Paragraph [0064] is amended to correct reference number "163" to read --164-- and the objection is traversed.

Claim Rejections 35 USC § 112

Claims 13-19 and 21 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 13 is amended to depend from amended claim 17 which provides proper antecedent and the rejection is traversed.

Claim 21 was likewise rejected for the same reason. Claim 21 is amended to depend from claim 20 and the rejection is traversed.

Claim Rejections 35 USC § 102

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 3-4, 7-8 and 20-21 as being anticipated by Bengal et al. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Bengal et al. teach interconnection monitoring in a wire network and does not teach or suggest inserting anything into an overhead of a frame in a data packet stream.

Nonetheless, claim 1 is cancelled and the subject matter thereof incorporated in amended claim 2, deemed allowable.

Claim 12 is likewise cancelled and incorporated into amended claim 17, deemed allowable.

Claim 21 is amended to include the allowed limitations of amended claim 2.

Claims 3, 7 and 9 are amended to depend from amended claim 2.

Claim 13 is amended, as noted above, to depend from amended claim 17.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Allowability of claims 2, 5-6 and 17-19 is gratefully acknowledged.

In view of the amendment of claims 2, 17 and 20, claims 2-11 and 13-21 which remain pending in this application are now considered to be in a condition for immediate allowance.

Favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is requested.

If there are any fees required by this Amendment, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 16-0820.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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ANNOTATED SHEET

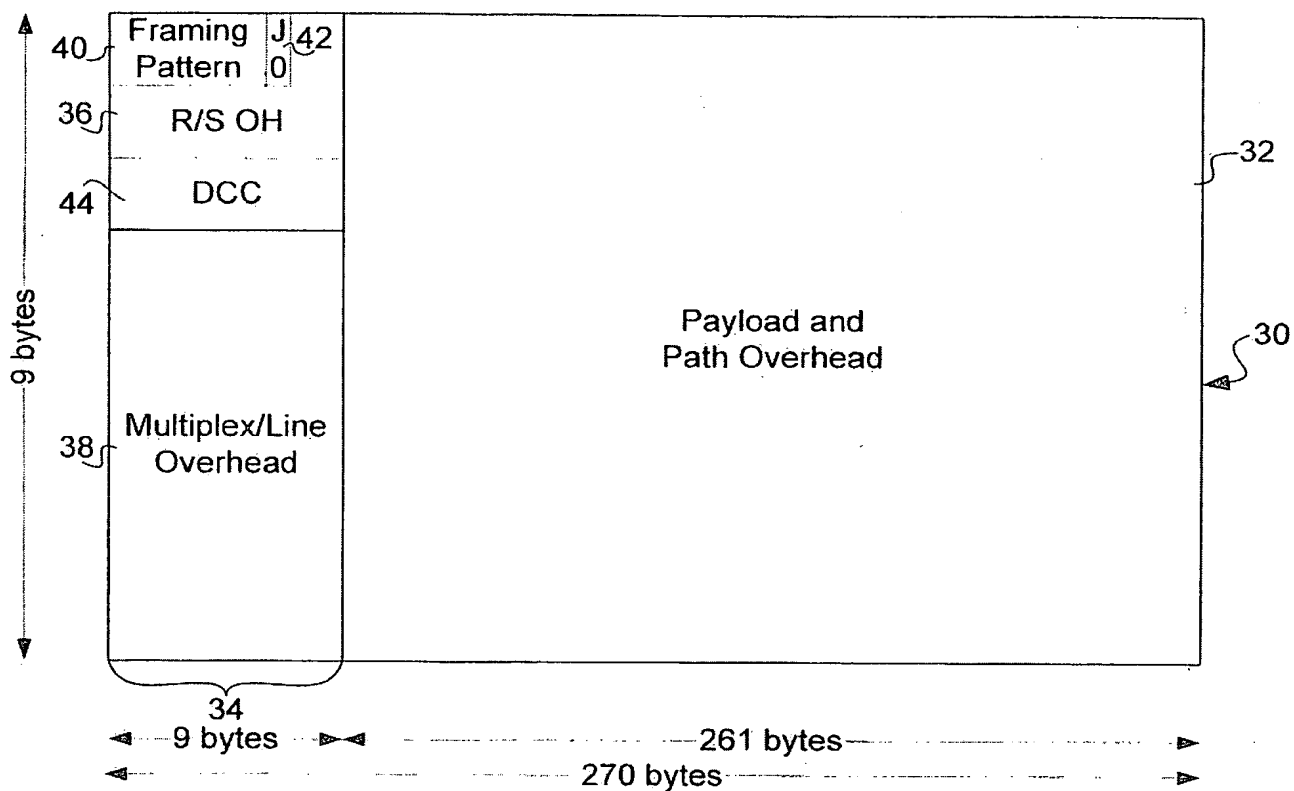


FIG. 4
Prior Art

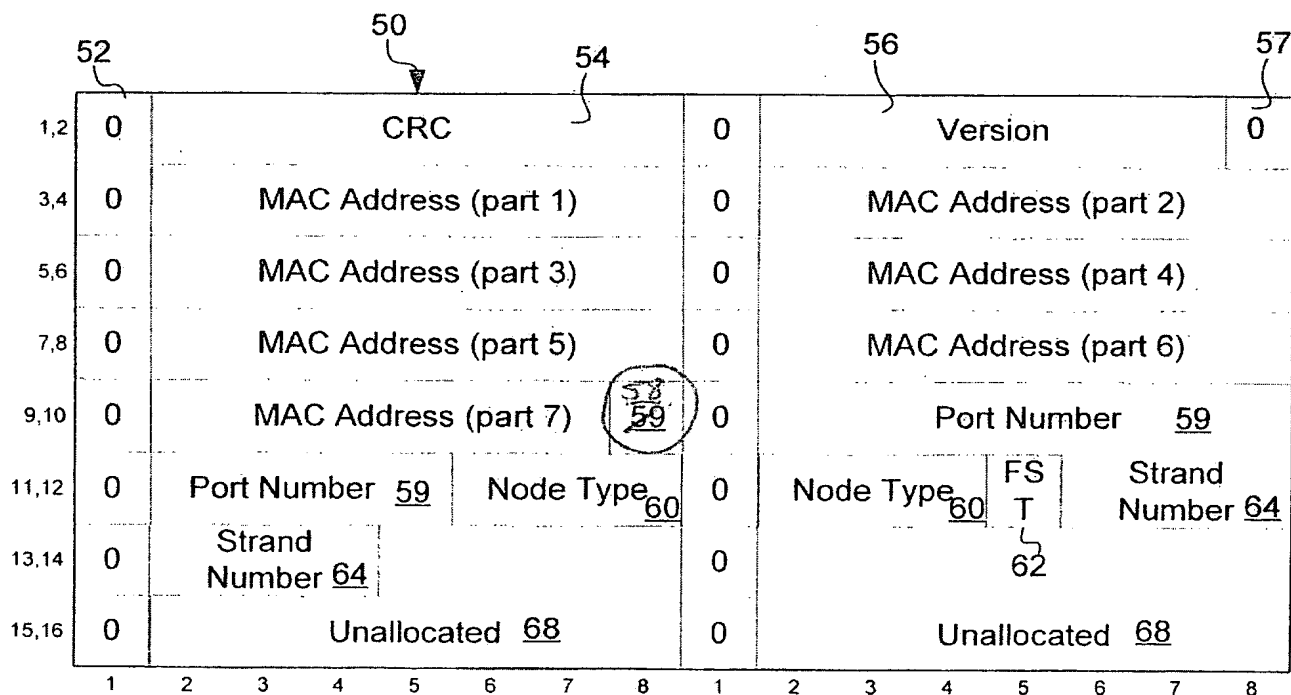


FIG. 5